

**JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
STEERING COMMITTEE
APRIL 5, 2002
8:00 A.M.**

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. Present were Chair Wayne Arnold, Vice-Chair Chuck Bonfiglio, Jason Curtis, Edna Moore (arrived at 8:02 a.m.), Councilmember Starkey (arrived at 8:15 a.m.) and Councilmember Truex. Also present were Economic Development Manager Margaret Wu (arrived at 8:12 a.m.) and Committee Secretary Janet Gale recording the meeting. Lynn Goldman and Robert Legg were absent.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 7, 2001

Vice-Chair Bonfiglio made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Truex, to approve the minutes of December 7, 2001. In a voice vote, with Ms. Goldman and Mr. Legg being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 5-0)**

3. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

Chair Arnold introduced Joanne Gaines, Director of Floridian Community Bank in Pembroke Pines. Ms. Gaines indicated that she was happy to be able to open a bank in the Davie area and spoke of prospective depositors and loan customers who were waiting to come on board, adding that Chair Arnold had accepted an advisory board appointment. She explained that she looked forward to being involved in the community and in assisting the Town and surrounding areas to grow. Ms. Gaines introduced Carolyn Tamboles also a Director of Floridian Community Bank. Ms. Tamboles informed the Committee that she welcomed the opportunity to assist the economy in the Davie area which had seen tremendous growth.

Ms. Gaines apprised the Committee of the location, and the proposed opening date for the bank, adding that the bank's offering circular had not been mailed or placed on the Internet as they were catering to a select group. She indicated that rapid growth was anticipated due to the following of depositors and loan customers. Additionally, there were profit centers that would be operating within the bank and amenities, such as those offered by other institutions, would be available. Ms. Gaines explained that there would be personalized services and the bank's loan committee would meet locally and not outside the area.

Ms. Moore asked if Ms. Gaines and Ms. Tamboles were the top officers in the bank. Ms. Gaines responded that there were other top officers within the bank.

Councilmember Truex inquired if there were other branches or if this was a start-up bank, with Ms. Gaines responding that this was a start-up. He referred to his experience as a banking customer and emphasized the need for the personal touch, adding that if the personal touch was added the bank should do well.

Chair Arnold inquired what encompassed getting a bank and asked Ms. Gaines to relay some of that information to the Committee. Ms. Gaines briefly explained the process involved adding that this was not a turn key operation.

Chair Arnold informed the Committee of a new business venture in the Town, Castaway Seafood Company, located at the southwest corner of University Drive and Griffin Road.

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4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Agrarian Committee – Jason Curtis

Mr. Curtis reported that he had recently attended a meeting at Southwest Ranches. He added that the Agrarian Committee had changed its name to Broward Agrarian Committee in order to encompass other areas within Broward County such as Parkland and Southwest Ranches that were experiencing similar farm issues like Davie. Mr. Curtis briefly spoke about the agricultural problems being experienced by Southwest Ranches and misinformation being communicated by the City's attorney to its Council. He explained the State Statutes guidelines established for the agricultural community, adding that without those guidelines the agricultural community in Broward County would be non-existent.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding drainage issues, State law versus drainage law, phosphorus levels and lawn fertilizing. Councilmember Starkey explained that what was needed was a filtration system or pump station in the C-11 Canal that would clean it before being discharged to the Everglades. She added that the most important issue was to preserve future drinking water.

4.2 Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) – Wayne Arnold

Chair Arnold indicated that at the last CRA meeting, signage for the Crazy Pollo Restaurant was approved. Legislation amending the Community Redevelopment Act of 1969, House Bill 1341 and Senate Bill 102 was also discussed. Chair Arnold indicated that the bill was passed by legislation and this would affect new community redevelopment agencies, but not those already established. He explained that Representative Dockery was displeased concerning some of the areas being developed by agencies. Following a lengthy discussion, Councilmember Starkey explained that Representative Dockery's concern was that certain counties were not utilizing the CRA in an appropriate manner and there were no standards. She explained that the problems with CRA's in Representative Dockery's area of Polk County, had prompted a joint efforts with the Florida Counties Associations to join forces to push for legislation to eliminate any new CRA and place tighter restrictions on those existing.

Chair Arnold reported that CRA Administrator William Allen received his annual review and recommendation would be made to Council for a retroactive salary increase. He also referred to the Orange Blossom banners that were erected on Davie Road.

4.3 Davie/Cooper City Chamber of Commerce – Chuck Bonfiglio

Vice-Chair Bonfiglio expressed thanks to the Town on behalf of the Chamber for its assistance with the Orange Blossom Festival, as well as special thanks to the CRA for banners and flags. He referred to two new committees that had been established by the Chamber a Marketing Committee and the Ambassador Committee. Vice-Chair Bonfiglio explained the reason and purpose for both committees adding that a kiosk would be in front of the Chamber with available information about the Town. He also informed the Committee that Alice Harrington had been promoted to Executive Director of the Chamber. Vice-Chair Bonfiglio advised that the Chamber had plans to hold an ADA seminar in May.

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Councilmember Truex asked if there would be an Orange Blossom Festival next year, with Vice-Chair Bonfiglio responding that he was unsure.

4.4 Davie Economic Development Council (EDC) – Robert Legg

As there was no representative present, no report was made.

4.5 Davie Merchants and Industrial Association (DMIA) – Wayne Arnold

Chair Arnold reported that the recent meeting was well attended and there were several representatives from Town departments in attendance. He added that the representatives in attendance answered some tough questions and he was particularly impressed by Assistant Town Administrator Kenneth Cohen.

Chair Arnold advised that Officer Jeff Stewart would be the speaker at the upcoming DMIA meeting and at the May meeting, County Commissioner John Rodstrom would be the speaker.

4.6 Planning and Zoning Board – Edna Moore

Ms. Moore indicated that there was nothing to report as no Planning and Zoning meeting had been held.

4.7 South Florida Education – Lynn Goldman

As there was no representative present, no report was made.

4.8 Town Council – Councilmember Starkey and Councilmember Truex

Councilmember Starkey discussed the 45 townhomes project by Lennar Homes, commenting that this was an “in fill” project. She added that she had seen revisions of a proposed site plan and the developer was trying to accommodate the natural landscapes as well as the Central Broward Water Control District easement. Councilmember Starkey indicated that the particular price range as well as the market was needed within the Town. There was a lengthy discussion concerning the density and the changes that there being attempted in order to changed the “row appearance”, as well as saving some of the trees.

Councilmember Starkey referred to the airport expansion and the Vision 20/20 and the reasons for its impact on the Town. She expressed her concern regarding economic development and growth for the Town, adding that if the Town would be affected by the flight pattern and abatement, there should be more benefit through economic growth and stimulant than just a parking garage and a motel. Councilmember Starkey suggested that State Road 441 and Interstate 595 corridors be included in a master plan development for attracting corporate businesses that would complement the Town, and be used in conjunction with the airport expansion.

Chair Arnold indicated that Commissioner Rodstrom was adamant that the airport expansion would move forward regardless of the opposition. Councilmember Starkey added that the expansion would happen, however the extent was dependent on taxpayers. She indicated that each organization represented at the Committee should spread the word about the negative impact that this expansion would have. Councilmember Starkey commented that

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Davie did not have a seat at the table; however, Dania, Hollywood and Fort Lauderdale were recognized as being adversely impacted by the expansion. She added that one airport director had indicated that only properties that were contiguous were affected, however, she disagreed.

Councilmember Starkey indicated that she had been pushing to have Davie represented, adding that Mayor Venis had been having discussions with Congressman Peter Deutsch to that end.

Chair Arnold referred to the Lennar Homes development, adding that there was a need for "starter homes" because in the entire County, the youngest people resided in Davie. Councilmember Starkey expressed the opinion that this was because of the educational complex.

5. COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTIONS

Mr. Curtis indicated that he was in the process of formulating a business plan to bring a five acre movie production house to Davie. He apprised the Committee of his plans and visions for a location, costs, and negotiations he was having with Orion Films. Mr. Curtis indicated that with the proposed airport expansion, Davie would be logical location.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Date Approved

Chair/Committee Member